

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 11310 251348Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PC-05 AID-05 SS-15 L-03 NSC-05
CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-02 ICA-20 SP-02
MMO-01 /079 W
-----047783 260227Z /64

R 251127Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2976

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 11310

PASS PEACE CORPS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID IN US
SUBJECT: DESAI SAYS NO TO PEACE CORPS IN INDIA

1. JULY 25 EDITIONS OF INDIAN NEWSPAPERS GAVE PROMINENT
COVERAGE TO PRIME MINISTER DESAI'S REPLY TO JULY 1
LETTER FROM MRS. LILLIAN CARTER. DESAI EXPRESSED
TO MRS. CARTER HIS APPRECIATION OF THE WORK THE
PEACE CORPS HAD DONE IN INDIA AND ELSEWHERE BUT ADDED QUOTE
I AM SURE YOU WILL AGREE THAT IN THE PRESENT STATE OF
AWAKENING IN THE COUNTRY AND THE ZEAL FOR SERVICE WHICH
HAS BEEN GENERATED ALL AROUND, WE WOULD LIKE TO DO THE
WORK OURSELVES RATHER THAN SECURE MANPOWER ASSISTANCE
FROM OUTSIDE. THIS DOES NOT MEAN IN SPHERES WHERE
EXPERIENCE OF NEW TECHNIQUES IS LIKELY TO BE BENEFICIAL
TO US, IT COULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO ASSIST US IN OUR WORK
OF TRANSFORMATION OF CONDITIONS IN THE COUNTRYSIDE
UNQUOTE.

2. DESAI EXTENDED AN INVITATION TO MRS. CARTER TO VISIT
INDIA AS QUOTE OUR GUEST UNQUOTE. HE ALSO WROTE THAT
HE MISSED MEETING HER WHEN HE WAS IN WASHINGTON.

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3. COMMENT: DESAI'S RESPONSE IS CONSISTENT WITH THE
IDENTICAL REPLIES OF FOREIGN MINISTER VAJPAYEE AND
MEA MINISTER OF STATE KUNDU ON JULY 21 AND JULY 20
RESPECTIVELY IN THE TWO HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT TO QUESTIONS
ABOUT THE POSSIBLE REINTRODUCTION OF THE PEACE CORPS INTO INDIA.
BOTH MINISTERS SAID THAT THE GOI HAD BEEN
SOUNDED OUT INFORMALLY ON THIS POSSIBILITY, BUT THAT

QUOTE THE PROPOSAL IS NOT UNDER THE ACTIVE CONSIDERATION
OF THE GOVERNMENT UNQUOTE.
GOHEEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Draft Date: 25 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Drafter: n/a
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Format: TEL
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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TAGS: EAID, IN, US, PC
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